

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Frank Degnan [mailto:degnan@degnandivers.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 01, 2005 9:11 PM

**To:** MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov

**Cc:** 'Marc Shargel'; YSCUBA@CaliforniaDivers.com

**Subject:** MLPAComments: Preliminary Draft Master Plan Framework; Comments on Stakeholder for Scuba Divers

My name is Frank Degnan and I want to thank you for the opportunity to offer my comments on the Master Plan Framework. My comments pertain to obtaining stakeholder and specifically to input from the scuba diving community. Currently I am the "Diver Representative" for the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary as well as the Diving Safety Officer and Scuba Instructor for CSU Monterey Bay. In the past I have taught the scuba programs at San Jose State University, and Monterey Peninsula College as well as working in the retail scuba industry. I am also a co-founder of National Instructors Association for Divers with Disabilities a non-profit corporation dedicated to scuba training for individuals with disabilities.

Based on over 20 years experience with the diving community in the Monterey Bay Area I strongly urge that you contact and consult the following groups to obtain a comprehensive overview of the scuba diving community's feelings and desires regarding the MLPA:

- Retail Dive Shops
- Dive Boat Operators
- Diving Safety Officers for Colleges and Universities
- Dive Clubs
- Underwater Photography Clubs
- Active Instructors
- Active Divers without a club affiliation

I am confident you will find that the diving community is concerned about access to our oceans, it overwhelmingly supports the goals of the MLPA.

Thank you again for allowing me the opportunity to offer these comments.

Sincerely,

Frank Degnan